



Eye on Influenza

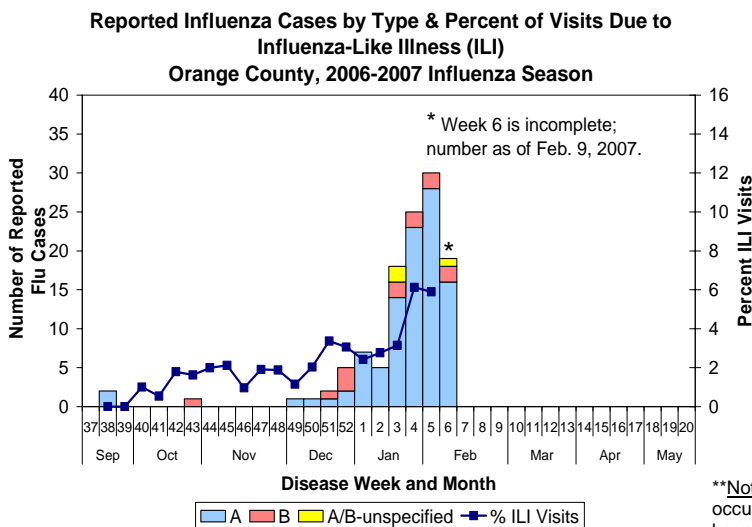
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For information on safety precautions for those traveling to Asia for the upcoming Lunar New Year (February 18), see http://www.cdc.gov/travel/other/bird_flu_lunar_new_year_2007.htm.

Consider influenza in your patients presenting with fever and/or respiratory symptoms. Please inquire about recent travel (in the 10 days prior to symptom onset) to H5N1- affected countries and contact OC Epidemiology immediately at 714-834-8180 to report any suspect avian influenza cases.

- **WHO summary of confirmed human H5N1 cases between 11/03-11/06** is available at <http://www.who.int/entity/wer/2007/wer8206.pdf>. Median age of the 256 lab-confirmed case was 18 years; 52% of cases were < 20 years old. Median duration from onset of symptoms to hospitalization was 4 days. Overall case-fatality rate was 60%. Median number of days from onset until death was 9. Cases tended to peak in the cooler months of the northern hemisphere.
- **Human H5N1 case in Nigeria confirmed.** There are now 11 countries with human H5N1 cases. For the latest case count, see http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/country/en/.
- **H5N1 poultry outbreak in England:** The outbreak occurred on a turkey farm in Suffolk, England making this the country's first poultry outbreak and Europe's second in 2007. For more info, visit: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/feb0507england.html>.
- **New OSHA guidance on preparing workplaces for an influenza pandemic:** http://www.osha.gov/Publications/influenza_pandemic.html.



Orange County**

- Since the last newsletter, 34 new influenza cases (30 A, 3 B & 1 A/B unspecified) have been reported.
- Of the 116 total reported cases to date: 86% were A, 11% B, and 3% A/B-unspecified.
- Of the 47 subtyped flu A specimens: 68% were H1 and 32% were H3. Two influenza A (H1) specimens have been strain-typed as A/New Caledonia/20/99-like, which is a component of the 2006-07 influenza vaccine.
- To-date, four severe pediatric influenza cases (hospitalized in the ICU) have been reported.

**Note: The number of reported cases does NOT correspond to the total number of cases occurring in OC as not all labs participate, the surveillance programs are not population based, and testing may be influenced by many factors such as public interest. However, the trends in influenza activity are likely to be reflected accurately.

Avian Influenza Update

- 272 human H5N1 cases have been confirmed in Azerbaijan (8), Cambodia (6), China (22), Djibouti (1), Egypt (20)*, Indonesia (81), Iraq (3), Nigeria (1)*, Thailand (25), Turkey (12), and Vietnam (93), and have resulted in 166 (61%) deaths. H5N1-infected birds have been reported in multiple areas in Asia, Africa and Europe. For a list of H5N1-affected countries, see <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/af/index.htm>.
*New reported case(s) since February 2nd.

- Please report any suspect avian influenza cases immediately to OC Epidemiology at 714-834-8180.

California and USA

- Influenza activity was widespread in nine states (Arkansas, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas) during week 5, but remained regional in California.
- A total of 17 severe pediatric influenza cases have been reported thus far in CA this season.

Recommended Resources

General: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>

OC: <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/flu/surveillance.htm>

CA: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dc/dc/VRDL/html/FLU/FluIntro.htm>

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

HHS: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>

If you have any comments about the flyer, contact Alina Burgi or Pamela Roa Hipp at (714) 834-8180.

To receive this newsletter by email, please contact us at epi@ochca.com.